

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 09224 030850Z

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 /011 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6272

UNCLAS LAGOS 9224

E.O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : OEXC, NI

SUBJECT: MULTI-REGIONAL LEADER PROJECT ON URBAN
TRANSPORTATION

REF : A) STATE 167040; B) LAGOS 8049

1) EMBASSY NOMINATES AS PRINCIPALS FOR SUBJECT PROJECT MR. MOSES
I. ALEGE, ACTING DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY, AND DR. NKANTA
F. EKANEM, PRINCIPAL PLANNING OFFICER, BOTH OF FEDERAL MINISTRY
OF TRANSPORT, LAGOS. GIVEN IMPORTANCE OF PROJECT AND ITS POTENTIAL
EFFECT ON NIGERIAN AND U.S. CONCERNS, HOPE BOTH PRINCIPALS CAN
BE ACCEPTED. REGRET LATENESS OF NOMINATION, WHICH DUE DELAYED
RECEIPT OF NOMINATIONS FROM MINTRANS.

2) BIODATA FOLLOWS:

(A) FULL NAME : ALEGE, MOSES IYA
PRESENT POSITION : AG DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, LAGOS
PAST POSITIONS : UNDER SECRETARY, SENIOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY
(NOW REDESIGNATED PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY); ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER (PRINCIPAL GRADE); ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH : 11/9/1929; MOPA, NIGERIA

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP - NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS

TRAVEL TO US : MAY, 1973 AS MEMBER FEDERAL GOVT'S TEAM
TO WORLD BANK TO NEGOTIATE LOAN FOR APAPA 3RD WHARF EXPANSION.
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 09224 030850Z

EDUCATION : KADUNA COLLEGE, KADUNA JUNCTION (NOW BAREWA COLLEGE, ZARIA) WITH SECONDARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE; FOURAH BAY COLLEGE, FREETOWN (NOW UNIVERSITY OF SIERRA LEONE) WITH B.A. DEGREE IN ECONOMICS

OTHER COUNTRIES VISITED : SIERRA LEONE

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : NONE

ESCORT SERVICES : REQUESTED

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE.

REASON FOR NOMINATION : AS DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY (WATER TRANSPORT) IN THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, MR. ALEGE IS ONE OF TWO OFFICIALS REPORTING DIRECTLY TO PERMANENT SECRETARY (NO.2 IN MINISTRY) AND THUS ALREADY HOLDS KEY LEADERSHIP POSITION IN TRANSPORT PLANNING HIERACHY. ALTHOUGH NOMINALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR WATER TRANSPORT, NOMINATED BECAUSE OF BROAD EXPERIENCE AND SENIORITY TO PARTICIPATE IN WIDER RANGE OF PLANNING DECISIONS; AND PRE-OCCUPATION WITH IMMENSE TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS OF LAGOS IS INEVITABLE FEATURE OF HIS WORK, PARTICULARLY AS WATER TRANSPORT WILL PLAY KEY ROLE IN SOLUTIONS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION.

U.S. OBJECTIVES : ANY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF UNITED STATE THAT MR. ALEGE MAY DERIVE FROM EXPERIENCE OF THIS SEMINAR WILL BE PLUS FOR U.S. INTERESTS. FOR REASONS UNKNOWN, HE HAS BEEN ONE OF MORE DIFFICULT SENIOR OFFICIALS IN MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT TO REACH, AND DOES NOT NOW APPEAR TO BE PARTICULARLY FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO UNITED STATES. BELIEVE WOULD BENEFIT FROM SUBJECT PROJECT AND WE HOPE IT WILL PROVIDE EFFECTIVE VEHICLE FOR IMPROVING EMBASSY'S RAPPORT WITH HIM. HIS FUTURE LEADERSHIP ROLE WILL INCREASE BENEFITS OF THIS GRANT.

(B) FULL NAME : EKANEM, NKANTA F. DR.

PRESENT POSITION : PRINCIPAL PLANNING OFFICER

MIN. OF TRANSPORT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LAGOS 09224 030850Z

PAST POSITIONS : RESEARCH STAFF

URBAN INSTITUTE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH : [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 5 September 2013]; EKET, SOUTHEASTERN STATE

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP : NIGERIA; NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO US : 1967 - 1968 USAID; 1969 - 73

EDUCATION : UNIVERSITY OF GHANA B.SC (ECON);
HOWARD UNIVERSITY, M.A.;
GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, PH.D.

OTHER COUNTRIES VISITED : 1961 - 1964 GHANA

PREVIOUS USG GRANT : USAID, 1967 - 68

ESCORT SERVICES : REQUESTED

VISA ELIGIBILITY : NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIGIBLE.

REASON FOR NOMINATION : DR. EKANEM IS SINGLE INDIVIDUAL IN NIGERIA WHO BEST FITS QUALIFICATIONS FOR NOMINEES SPELLED OUT IN STATE 167040. AS HEAD OF TRANSPORT PLANNING UNIT OF FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, HE CURRENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING TRANSPORT COMPONENT OF NIGERIA'S THIRD NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (1975-80). THIS TASK REQUIRES GRASP OF BROAD POLICY ALTERNATIVES AMONG ALL MODES AS LAGOS AND IBADAN (WHICH MUST RANK AMONG THE WORST URBAN PROBLEM AREAS ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENT) CLAIMS MAJOR PORTION OF HIS TIME.

US OBJECTIVES : NOMINEE, AT 34, STILL RELATIVELY YOUNG, MUST BE REGARDED AS MAN ON THE WAY UP. CAN ASSUME HE WILL BE AMONG CONTENDERS FOR THE MINISTRY'S NO.2 JOB (PERMANENT SECRETARY) WITHIN NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. ALTHOUGH HE HAS ALREADY SPENT TIME IN UNITED STATES AS GRADUATE STUDENT, EMBASSY STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT DR. EKANEM -- BY VIRTUE OF POSITION HE HOLDS AND HIS LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL -- IS AN IDEAL CANDIDATE FOR PARTICIPATION IN SEMINAR, AND THAT THIS FURTHER EXPOSURE TO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LAGOS 09224 030850Z

UNITED STATES WILL HELP CEMENT FAVORABLE DISPOSITION HE NOW HAS TOWARDS OUR COUNTRY.

ALTERNATES : MR. JOHN E.K. OYEGUN
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
TRANSPORT UTILITIES SECTION
GENERAL PLANNING
MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION

MR. E. A. OLEGBE
UNDER SECRETARY (LAND TRANSPORT)
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT .

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